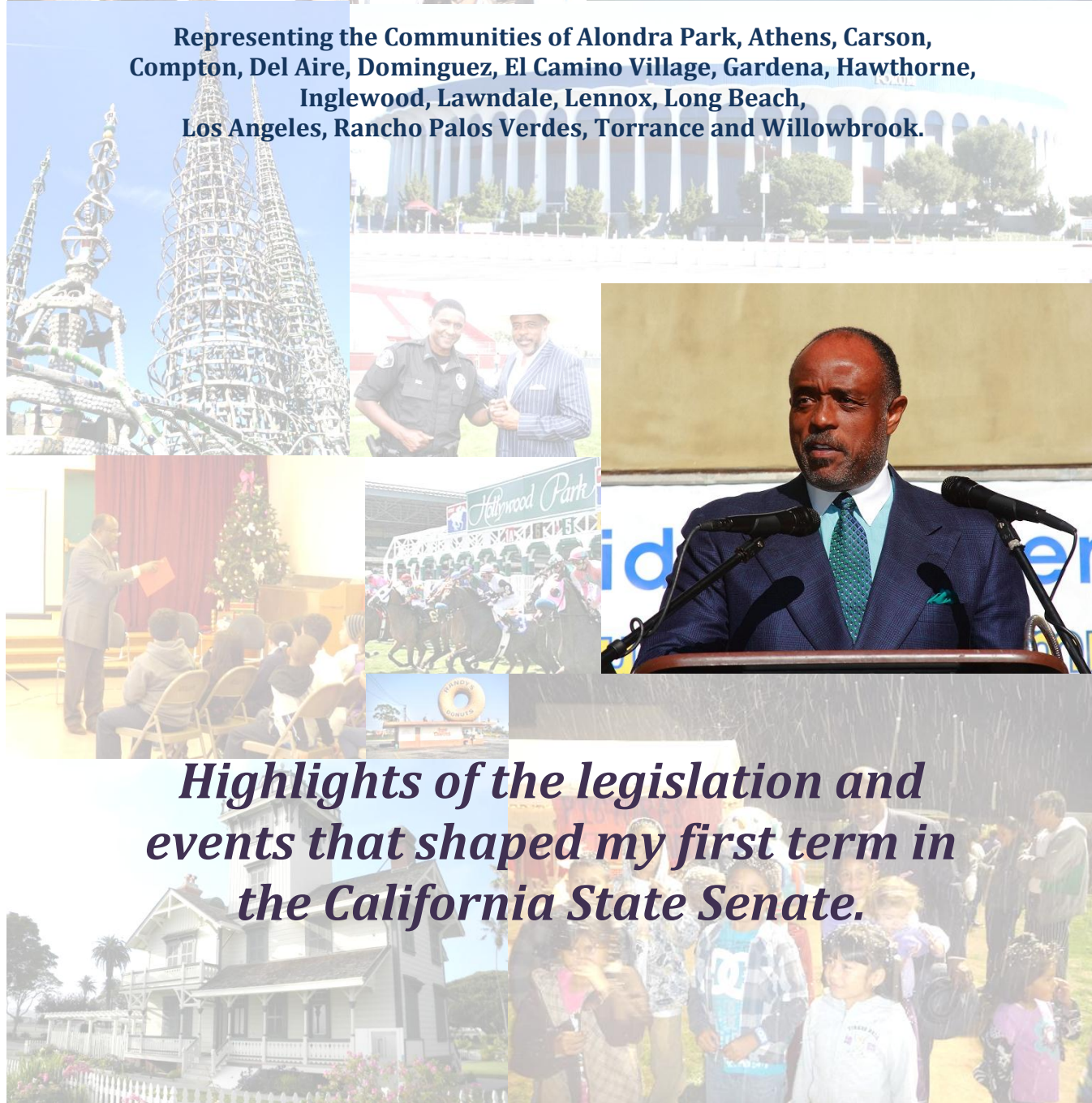


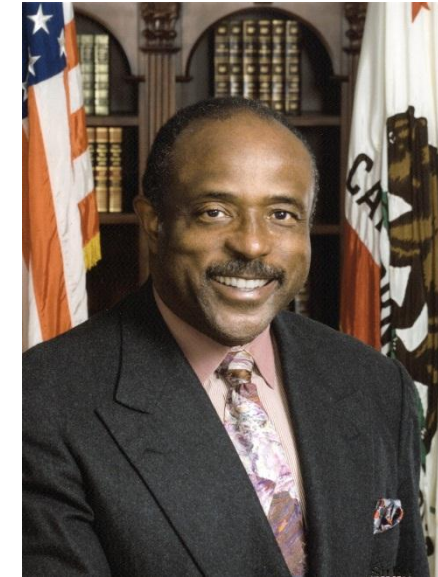


# Senator Roderick D. Wright

Representing the Communities of Alondra Park, Athens, Carson, Compton, Del Aire, Dominguez, El Camino Village, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lennox, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Rancho Palos Verdes, Torrance and Willowbrook.



*Highlights of the legislation and events that shaped my first term in the California State Senate.*



## Senator Roderick D. Wright

### Capitol Office

State Capitol, Room 5064  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 651-4025  
Fax: (916) 445-3712

### Inglewood District Office

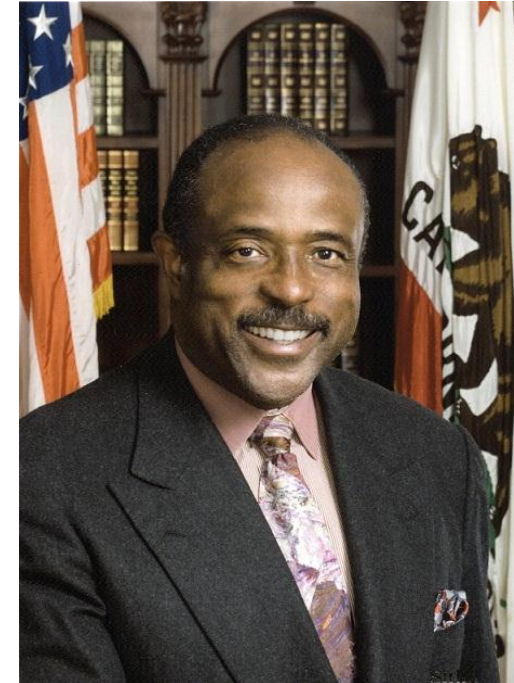
One Manchester Boulevard  
Suite 600  
Inglewood, CA 90301  
Phone: (310) 412-0393  
Fax: (310) 412-0996

[www.sen.ca.gov/wright](http://www.sen.ca.gov/wright)



## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome Letter from Senator Roderick D. Wright</b>
<b>2-3</b>	<b>2011 Legislative Summary League of California Cities Legislator of the Year 2011 Garner Highway Dedication</b>
<b>4-5</b>	<b>Women of Distinction</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Legislature Honors Quincy Jones</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Herbie Hancock Honored in State Capitol</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Wright Fights to Prevent Senior Scams</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>CIF Track Champions Recognized</b>
<b>10-11</b>	<b>Student Honors Luncheon</b>
<b>12-13</b>	<b>2010 Legislative Summary Fathers and Families Senator of the Year “Grow Your Exports” Seminar</b>
<b>14-15</b>	<b>School Readiness and Health Fair</b>
<b>16-17</b>	<b>Operation Gobble and Holiday Celebration &amp; Toy Giveaway</b>
<b>18-19</b>	<b>2009 Legislative Summary Manufacturers’ Legislator of the Year Tomorrow’s Aeronautical Museum Trip</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Community Events and Resources</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>CA Small Business Association Awards</b>



### ***Greetings!***

I want to thank all of you for your continued support during my first term in the California State Senate. I would like to share with you the legislation and events that highlighted this period as I prepare for the legislative battles that lay ahead.

I am proud of the battles we have fought together to improve life for people in our community.

The issues have ranged from a better construction permit process to jump-start the stalled construction industry in Southern California, to legislation to help keep foster youth from unnecessary school transfers that hinder their education.

I enjoy the opportunity to interact with the residents of my District to continue to learn which issues matter most to you. Each year we celebrate our wonderful “Women of Distinction” and recognize the district’s top performing students. We also acknowledge many other wonderful members of our community in townhall meetings that I host, as well as meetings, celebrations and retirements that I attend throughout the year.

This report contains the stories and experiences of my district events along with the highs and lows of my legislative battles and victories. Thank you so much for reading this report and for your support as your State Senator.



  
California State Senator

## *Senator Wright's legislative highlights for 2011 include...*

- ❖ Fought to create a cost-effective means for people unfairly included in a gang injunction – or who had since turned their lives around – to protest their continued inclusion in the injunction. **(SB 296)**
- ❖ Sought state intervention for the beleaguered Inglewood Unified School District, so teachers and administrators could return their focus to teaching our children. **(SB 477)**
- ❖ Gave the Medical Board authority to provide research and information for doctors to help patients make lifestyle and nutritional changes that can cure and/or prevent many chronic diseases, which disproportionately affect low-income communities, including heart disease and Type-2 diabetes. **(SB 380)**
- ❖ Fought to save redevelopment agencies, a critical tool for developing low-income housing and removing blight, both activities which fuel job creation. **(SB 286)**
- ❖ Did away with statewide inconsistencies in the licensing process for concealed firearms, while ensuring unqualified applicants do not pay exorbitant fees for training before being declined. **(SB 610)**
- ❖ Attempted to protect students with limited English by prohibiting private postsecondary schools from enrolling non-native speakers in courses taught in English unless and until the student passes a proficiency test. **(SB 675)**

### **Wright names freeway in memory of LAPD veteran**



The family of the late LAPD Deputy Chief Kenneth Garner, a 32-year veteran of the force and champion for his community, joined LAPD Chief Charlie Beck and Senator Wright in November of 2011 for the unveiling of highway signs that memorialize a portion of Highway Route 110 in Garner's honor. Wright renamed the Florence Avenue exits through SCR 106.

## **Wright named 2011 Legislator of the Year for leading fight to save redevelopment**

Wright was widely praised by local elected officials, community leaders and affordable housing advocates from throughout the state for leading the fight to save California's critical redevelopment agencies from elimination. In September of 2011, Wright was named one of the League of California Cities two Legislators of the Year for his efforts.

In lower-income communities, redevelopment is a vital tool for cleaning up blighted properties, building infrastructure and creating affordable housing – all of which generate local jobs and help fuel the economy. Unfortunately, a few bad apples – largely in wealthier communities – cast a shadow over a majority of agencies doing great work.

Wright authored a package of reforms to eliminate the abuse and make elimination of redevelopment agencies unnecessary. He also authored an alternative redevelopment financing proposal that would have created a positive outcome for both local agencies and the state.



**Wright was named 2011 Legislator of the Year by the League of California Cities for his efforts to reform and save redevelopment.**

- ❖ Attempted to require state agencies to produce an estimate of the compliance costs when adopting, amending or repealing regulations, and require the Legislature be notified if total costs of compliance exceed \$10,000,000. **(SB 688)**
- ❖ Gave public health departments the tools to better serve patients with HIV and their exposed partners, helping improve access to available services. **(SB 422)**
- ❖ Inserted language in the budget to ensure that Cal Grant money goes to schools with acceptable loan repayment rates.

*For more information on these and other bills by Senator Roderick D. Wright, please visit <http://acc.sd25.senate.ca.gov/content/legislation>.*



# Wright celebrates “Women of Distinction” for their many contributions to the District

*Moms to managers, educators to engineers, honorees go above and beyond...*



Giselle Carol Raines Brown, nominated in 2009 by the Inglewood Airport Area Chamber of Commerce, with Senator Wright and the Chamber’s executive director, Shannon Howe.



Above: City of Compton WOD Lenore Gibson chats with Senator Wright at the 2010 luncheon.

Right: City of Lawndale 2009 honoree Penny Bolton receives a resolution from Senator Wright.

While many legislators choose to honor a single “Woman of the Year” each year in Sacramento, Senator Wright has taken great pride in annually honoring 25 "Women of Distinction" from cities throughout the Senate District for their service, dedication, hard work and unselfish advocacy.

The recognition ceremony always includes an elegant lunch with speakers and entertainment at a great local venue, where each honoree receives a resolution from the California State Senate for her many contributions to her state and her community.



Above left: Aileen Hoy, nominated in 2010 by the Palos Verdes Library District, receives a Senate Resolution from Senator Wright. Above right: Fantasia Dance Ensemble entertained the Women of Distinction in 2010.

The 75 honorees so far this first term have included moms and managers, educators and engineers, all of whom have demonstrated great commitment to their communities.

These accomplished and selfless women were nominated by the cities, chambers of commerce and service clubs within the Senate District for their continued service to a wide variety of causes and organizations.



Above: Compton City Councilwoman Yvonne Arceneaux with 2011 WOD emcee Beverly White of NBC4.



Left: Wright is surrounded by his Women of Distinction honorees for 2011 at the Palos Verdes Golf Club.



## Legislature recognizes music legend Quincy Jones in celebration of Black History Month



Quincy Jones addresses State Senate.

Senator Wright was honored to pay tribute to the legendary Quincy Jones at the State Capitol in February of 2012, in celebration of Black History Month and Mr. Jones' many contributions to the world through music and philanthropy.

"Quincy Jones is one of the greatest and most respected music minds of the last sixty years," said Wright. "It is an honor that Mr. Jones joined us to allow the California Senate to thank him personally and publicly for the many young artists he mentored and inspired to greatness, and the music he has brought to the world."

The music career of legendary producer Quincy Jones has spanned a half a century, during which time Jones has filled the role of artist, arranger, composer, producer, conductor and record company executive. From music, he has branched out to succeed as a TV and movie producer, magazine founder and multi-media entrepreneur.

From his early days as a trumpeter for Lionel Hampton, Jones quickly developed a reputation as an arranger that led him to work with such greats as Ray Charles, Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Dizzie Gillespie, Billie Holiday, Michael Jackson and Frank Sinatra. Jones produced Jackson's "Thriller," as well as the charity single "We Are The World."

In 1961, Jones became the first high-level black executive of a major record company. He has also scored 33 major motion pictures, another musical arena previously all-but closed to African-Americans. Jones has won 27 Grammy awards and an Emmy and has been nominated for an Oscar seven times.

Right: Wright honors Jones with a Resolution during Senate Floor Session.



## Wright honors jazz great Herbie Hancock at Capitol



World-renowned jazz pianist and composer Herbie Hancock was honored at the State Capitol by Senator Wright for his immeasurable contributions to the music industry and for his continuing commitment to music education for our nation's youth.

In early 2011, Hancock was presented with a Resolution from the State Senate praising his five-decade career of contributions to the entertainment of several generations of Californians and for his efforts to provide music education to a new generation of artists.

Since the 1960s, Hancock – who Wright lauded as a bridge to both our musical past and future – has performed with the likes of Miles Davis and introduced the world to stars like trumpeter Wynton Marsalis. His impressive body of work has earned him 12 Grammy Awards, in addition to the Academy Award for Best Original Score for "Round Midnight."

Hancock currently chairs the Thelonius Monk Institute of Jazz. The Institute's mission is to offer the world's most promising young musician's college-level training by America's jazz masters and to present public school-based jazz education programs to young people around the world, all free of charge.

Wright also honored the Institute, and it's President Thomas R. Carter, for their work to "bring young people into the world of jazz and keep it alive."

In addition to his work with the Thelonius Institute of Jazz, Hancock serves as co-president of the International Committee of Artists for Peace and, along with his wife Gigi and daughter Jessica, is an active supporter of the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation.



Hancock receives a resolution from Senator Wright and members of the California Legislative Black Caucus on the Senate Floor.



## Wright fights to protect seniors in his community from frauds that target older residents

Senator Wright has hosted a series of Senior Scam Stopper<sup>SM</sup> seminars over the years, in an effort to give seniors in his community the tools to protect themselves from frauds that target them.

Presented in conjunction with the Contractors State License Board, these seminars are presented to the public free of charge and cover such topics as construction-related scams, Medicare fraud, identity theft, auto repair and investments.



**Wright recognizes Chief Dan Dreiling of the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department and Captain Ronene Anda of the Lomita Sheriff's Station at the 2010 seminar in Palos Verdes.**

“Unfortunately there are people in any community who will take advantage of those they perceive to be ‘easy targets,’ even if that victim is somebody’s grandmother,” said Wright. “I hope we gave seniors the tools and know-how to keep themselves from being victimized and help protect the savings they have worked a lifetime for.”



**Above: Wright presents a shredder to John Champion in Compton in 2012; Right: Palos Verdes drew a crowd in '10.**



**Wright chats with attendees of the 2012 senior fraud seminar in Inglewood.**

A panel of experts from agencies such as the Department of Insurance, Public Utilities Commission, California Health Advocates and the Los Angeles District Attorney's office comes together to focus on their individual specialties at each event, with CSLB giving tips on what to check for when hiring a contractor.



## Wright honors CIF high school track & field champions

The California State Track and Field Meet is the oldest continuous high school championship event in California. The event was established in 1915 and has produced more Olympic and World Champions than any other high school event in the world.

Senator Wright, State Superintendent of Schools Tom Torlakson and Chief Clerk of the Assembly E. Dotson Wilson, all former track athletes themselves, began a tradition in 1999 of honoring the boys' and girls' championship teams at the State Capitol each year.

In 2011, the Long Beach Poly High School Jackrabbits from Wright's Senate District recorded a historic sweep, winning both the boys' and girls' championships. While Poly has now swept both titles in the same year three times, no other school has done this in the event's 93 years. It was the fourth-straight title for Poly's girls.

Since all of the 2011 honorees were from Long Beach, Wright broke with tradition and celebrated the achievement with a dinner ceremony at The Grand in Long Beach.

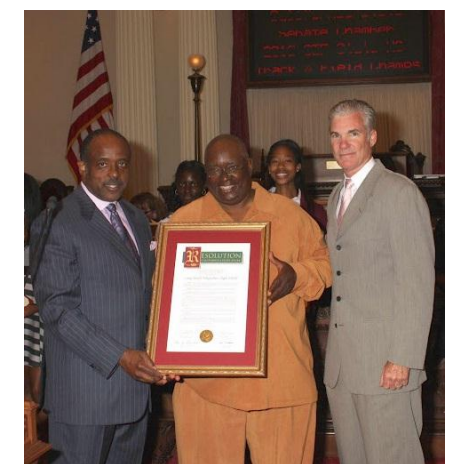
In 2010, there was a four-way tie for the boys' championship between the Cathedral HS Phantoms, Clovis East HS Timberwolves, La Sierra HS Eagles and Frontier HS Eagles. In 2009, the boys' title went to the Jesuit HS Marauders.



**The Long Beach Poly girls' track team is seen here celebrating victory at the State Capitol in 2009.**



**Above: In 2011, the awards ceremony moved to Long Beach, as the Jackrabbits swept both the boys' and girls' state titles for the third time. No other team has ever won both titles in the same year. Above right: Wright and Torlakson honor Don Norford on the Senate Floor in 2010; he has coached the team since 1979.**





# Student Honors Luncheon recognizes district students for academics, self-improvement and community service

*Essay contest winners earn scholarships for higher education*



Dennis Lord, with Southern California Gas Company, and Senator Wright present certificates to bright young 2010 Student Honors Luncheon honorees.

Each May Senator Wright is proud to recognize some of the best and the brightest students in the Senate District at his Student Honors Luncheon, an afternoon of food, prizes, entertainment and the celebration of learning.

Public and private schools from throughout the District nominate graduating elementary, middle and high school students to be honored based on academic excellence, community service and/or overall self-improvement.

Hundreds of honorees have been recognized at these luncheons during Wright’s first term as a State Senator. Each student receives a certificate, and the opportunity to compete for \$500 scholarships in an essay contest. Prizes, generously donated by local businesses, are raffled off to honorees, including amusement park passes and the latest in high-tech devices.



The 2011 event kicked off with opening remarks by Congresswoman Maxine Waters and Senator Wright.

Assemblymembers Steve Bradford (D-Gardena) and Mike Davis (D-Los Angeles), along with local



Above: Wright in 2010 with emcee William Allen Young. Left: Congresswoman Waters addresses students in 2011.

community leaders and elected officials, were also on-hand to congratulate the nominated students from their districts. The program was directed in 2010 and ’11 by event emcee William Allen Young, best known as the star of the Television programs “CSI: Miami” and “Moesha.”



Brothers Victor and Joseph Ekpo, who both attend the Renaissance Arts Academy, captivate 2011 attendees with their music.

Wright has made honoring top students from his Senate District a great annual district event, praising both the committed teachers and the actively involved parents who provide the foundation for the success of each student recognized. The annual recognition luncheon serves to honor the students and all of the individuals who give of themselves to contribute to their success in the classroom and in life.



2011 honorees celebrate by dancing with Tommy and the Hip Hop Clowns.



Clockwise from top left, 2011 essay contest scholarship winners along with event sponsors: Amethyst Jefferson-Roberts, Wright, Breshae' Davis, Gloria Gray - West Basin Municipal Water District, Nicholas Cardenas, Sandra Evers-Manly - Northrup Grumman Corporation, Frances Urani, Richard Benbow - Time Warner Cable, Camryn Marble, Allissa Coleman and Jamie Huff - Southern California Edison.



*Senator Wright’s legislative highlights for 2010 include...*

- ❖ Promised greater educational stability for California’s foster children by discouraging mid-term school transfers, greatly increasing their odds of graduating from high school. **(SB 1353)**
- ❖ Removed legal obstacles to ensure better coordination of insurance fraud investigations, a crime which costs Californians \$15 billion a year. **(SB 156)**
- ❖ Protected jobs in California’s struggling recording industry by bringing anti-piracy laws up-to-date with technology, addressing a crime which costs California \$4.2 billion a year. **(SB 830)**
- ❖ Protected job seekers from unauthorized access to their personal data caused by California investigative consumer agencies subcontracting their work “offshore.” **(SB 909)**
- ❖ Urged Congress, the President and Department of Defense to take immediate action to ensure continued production of the C-17 to meet future international and domestic airlift needs and protect a \$2 billion a year industry that supports 14,000 California jobs. **(SJR 29)**
- ❖ Protected the disabled by enacting a law that tells judges they may not deem a parent unfit based solely on a physical disability. **(SB 1188)**
- ❖ Saved limited air district staff resources by cracking down on abuse of a vague complaint response rule by certain individuals, allowing the agency to focus on legitimate health and safety issues. **(SB 1224)**
- ❖ Continued the fight to establish limits on out-of-pocket costs for oral chemotherapy for those health insurance policies that provide coverage for cancer chemotherapy treatment. **(SB 961)**
- ❖ Increased public awareness of the causes of chronic kidney disease and the importance of intervention to promote sustained health and quality of life. **(SCR 111)**
- ❖ Sought to protect patient health by ensuring temporary staff from a nursing registry are held to the same licensing and qualification standards as all nurses. **(SB 1119)**



**Wright seeks to grow exports**

Senator Wright convened a panel of local, state and federal agency representatives for a “Grow Your Exports” seminar in October of 2010 to help local businesses diversify into international trade. The event was co-hosted by the California Board of Equalization and Port of Los Angeles and held at Normandie Casino in Gardena.

**Wright named 2010 Senator of the Year for leadership in family court reform**

Senator Wright received the 2010 Senator of the Year Award from the organization Fathers and Families for “his fine leadership in the fight for family court reform.”

The organization, which seeks equal legal rights and responsibilities for both mothers and fathers, went on to applaud Wright’s inexhaustible passion and leadership on behalf of children of divorced or separated parents , as well as his efforts to improve quality of life for all parents and their children.

Wright worked closely with Fathers & Families in 2010 on four bills regarding child custody and child support reform, all of which were signed into law by the Governor.

**Right: Wright with Fathers & Families’ Michael Robinson.**



- ❖ Extended a law that defines termination of child support as a change in circumstance that can serve as the basis for a modification of spousal support. **(SB 1482)**
- ❖ Extended the law that provides for Multifamily Improvement Districts to finance residential property improvements and promote activities benefitting those properties. **(SB 1483)**
- ❖ Called on Congress and the President to vindicate the African-American sailors unjustly blamed for and convicted of mutiny following the Port Chicago disaster of 1944, which claimed 320 lives. **(SJR 21)**
- ❖ Renamed an interchange to honor World War II Medal of honor recipient and long-time teacher Rudolph Davila. **(SCR 107)**
- ❖ Sought to increase the statute of limitations for the state to recover penalties due from employers who violate wage and hour laws. **(SB 903)**
- ❖ Added enforcement penalties to help insure the Office of Inspector General follow the Peace Officers Bill of Rights when conducting audits and investigations of the Department of Corrections. **(SB 1032)**

For more information on these and other bills by Senator Roderick D. Wright, please visit <http://acc.sd25.senate.ca.gov/content/legislation>.



# Thousands receive free school supplies and health screenings at School Readiness and Health Fair



Bradford, Wright, LA County Superintendent Arturo Delgado and Ridley-Thomas with the winner of a donated raffle prize in 2011.

During Senator Wright’s first term in the California State Senate, thousands of children from throughout the Senate District have started the school year off right through participation in his annual School Readiness and Health Fair.

Nearly a thousand students converge on Jesse Owens Park each year for the event, presented in conjunction with Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and the National Family Life & Education Center.

Participants receive free school supplies - including backpacks, t-shirts and hoodies, as well as health screenings, critical to identifying health issues which could impact a child's school performance, such as a hearing or vision impairment.



L.A. rapper Mann performs in 2011.



Above: Students were encouraged to pursue physical fitness at the 2009 fair.

Right: Members of the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Mounted Patrol mingle with participants at the 2010 event.



Over the years, participants in Wright’s School Readiness and Health Fair have also enjoyed performances by top-notch entertainers and inspirational talks from professional athletes and community leaders, giving them a positive insight into the value education holds for their futures.

Clockwise from top right: Senator Wright leads by example, getting a blood test in 2010; Free dental check-ups help students start the school year off right in 2011; Thousands of community residents receive free school supplies and critical health care screenings each year, as seen here in 2010; South Bay Family Health Care provides eye exams at the “Healthy Kids Express” in 2009.





# Turkey Giveaway and Holiday Celebration ring in joyous season, start of new year in Legislature



Above: Assemblyman Bradford and Senator Wright get hands-on giving out turkeys at 2009’s Operation Gobble.

Above right: Wright, Lawndale Elementary Superintendent Ellen Dougherty, Lawndale Mayor Harold Hoffman and Bradford at Operation Gobble 2011.

Below: Bradford (left) and Wright (right) stand by as Santa hears requests from three young ladies in 2009.



## OPERATION GOBBLE

Each November, Senator Wright works with local businesses and non-profits to ensure that many district families enjoy the same Thanksgiving feast so many take for granted.

“Operation Gobble” has provided nearly 1500 turkeys to families throughout the Senate District over Wright’s first term in the Senate.

## HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Operation Gobble is followed closely by Senator Wright’s annual Holiday Celebration and Toy Giveaway.

Each year, Wright and Assemblyman Steven Bradford welcome the big guy in the red suit to a festive event where the legislators can talk with their constituents while their children enjoy a variety of crafts and entertainment.

Local businesses generously donate a wide array of age-appropriate gifts to the National Family Life and Education Center to ensure the young participants each go home from the Holiday Celebration with a special holiday surprise.

Operation Gobble and the Holiday Celebration give Wright another opportunity to talk face-to-face with constituents as he heads into a new legislative year, while helping to usher in happy holidays for all.

Clockwise from top right: Students from the Courtney School of Dance put on quite a show at the 2011 event; Senator Wright, Assemblyman Bradford and emcee Red Grant in 2010 with the happy recipient of a bicycle; Community youth get creative at the arts and crafts table hosted by the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce in 2011; Kids entertained themselves on a zipline while their folks met with Wright in 2009.





## *Senator Wright's legislative highlights for 2009 include...*

- ❖ Helped spur the stalled construction industry in Southern California – including several green energy projects – by authorizing SCAQMD to issue permits to essential public services, small businesses and other exempt facilities. **(SB 827)**
- ❖ Established Friday, May 8, 2009 as California Peace Officers Memorial Day, a statewide day of observance to honor officers killed in the line of duty. **(SCR 26)**
- ❖ Corrected a constitutional flaw so prosecutors can seek the maximum term for current law sentence enhancements, such as for hate crimes and drive-by shootings. **(SB 150)**
- ❖ Created a more equitable funding system for local schools, by allowing budget cuts to be factored into the basic grant formula for conversion to charter schools. **(SB 191)**
- ❖ Declared that federal disability benefits awarded to veterans for service-connected disabilities are exempt from the claims of creditors and shall not be liable to attachment, levy or seizure. **(SB 285)**

### **Compton sisters fly to Sacramento for Capitol honors**



Sisters Kimberly (left) and Kelly Anyadike (right) with Robin Petgrave of Tomorrow's Aeronautical Museum, Tuskegee Airman Levi Thornhill and Senator Wright during a 2009 visit to Sacramento. The young aviators flew up for recognition on Senate Floor.

## **California's manufacturers name Wright 2009 Legislator of the Year**

Senator Wright was honored as Legislator of the Year for 2009 by the California Manufacturing and Technology Association for "his unique ability and political courage to balance the interests of the environment with the very real needs of the business community and California's hard-working families."



A man of many hats, Senator Wright sacrificed style for a 2009 tour of the Coca-Cola bottling plant in downtown Los Angeles.

Wright was most proud that the award represented his efforts to jump-start the stalled construction industry in California, allowing \$4 billion in construction activity to go forward and clearing the way for 60,000 new jobs.

"I'm gratified to accept an award that is presented to me by those who provide jobs for tens of thousands of Californians," said Wright, upon receiving his award. "We've got to work together to create a healthy business environment in California while also protecting the environment."

- ❖ Expanded the dream of home ownership by allowing for impound or trust accounts for mortgages that meet the requirements of higher-priced mortgage loans. **(SB 633)**
- ❖ Fought to protect cancer victims by requiring health plans to cover drug chemotherapy treatment the same as intravenous chemotherapy. **(SB 161)**
- ❖ Strengthened and expanded protections for emergency response personnel by making permanent the "move over" law and adding Department of Transportation vehicles to its provisions. **(SB 240)**

*For more information on these and other bills by Senator Roderick D. Wright, please visit <http://acc.sd25.senate.ca.gov/content/legislation>.*



# Community comes first for Senator Wright and his staff

Senator Wright looks forward to every opportunity to meet with the residents of his district to discuss the issues and legislation that matter most to you.

Wright has hosted community townhall meetings on critical issues ranging from foreclosure prevention to



Wright talks with decorated veteran John Simpson at a 2011 Memorial Day event in Hawthorne.

financial literacy. He attends neighborhood council and community taskforce meetings whenever possible, and has a great staff of individuals committed to this community who attend on his behalf when Senate duties keep Wright in Sacramento, keeping him apprised of what is happening back home.

You will also find Wright and his staff at a wealth of community events throughout the year, where they will be happy to talk to you about valuable resources available to you as a resident of the great State of California.



Above: Wright speaks passionately to the West Athens Taskforce on the issues of education and the state budget. Above, right: Wright and his staff can be found at numerous community events throughout the year, armed with a wealth of information on critical state resources available to you.



Senator Wright joins The Kidney TRUST mascot "Ripples" and KTLA's Cher Calvin at a 2010 walk to raise awareness about chronic kidney disease.



Wright thanks Hawthorne Councilwoman Angie English (L) and Hawthorne Animal Control Officer Evelyn Diaz (R) for sponsoring a 2011 Locks of Love event.



# Wright recognizes local small business owners for their positive impact on the economy and community



Senator Wright with 2011 "Salute to Small Business Award" honoree Wanda Love of My Place Hair Salon.

Each year, Senator Wright selects one of the many outstanding small business owners from the Senate District to recognize with the "Salute to Small Business Award."

Wright, an ardent supporter of small business, enjoys the opportunity to thank small business leaders for their contributions to the community and California at an annual Sacramento luncheon hosted by the California Small Business Association.

In 2011, Wanda Love, owner of My Place Hair Salon in Gardena, was chosen for her business success and many volunteer efforts on behalf of her city and community. In addition to providing free services to many in need, Love serves on several Chambers of Commerce and National Congress of Black Women.

In 2010, Wright honored Wanza Tolliver of Tolliver Insurance in Lawndale. Tolliver also serves on the Chamber of Commerce, Workforce Investment Board and Community Watch Committee.

In 2009, the award went to Louis Hirsch, who has served as President of Parker Lighting, Inc., in Inglewood since 1977. The company has provided a full range of industrial, commercial and residential lighting supplies to the community since 1965.

Right: Wright's 2010 CSBA honoree, Wanza Tolliver of Tolliver Insurance in Lawndale.



Far right: Wright with 2009 CSBA honoree Louis Hirsch of Parker Lighting in Inglewood.

